

Editorial August

Pain and Joy.. Death and Resurrection

On the 8th of last August, the 78th anniversary of Sumele Tragedy passed by as it does every year followed by the massacre of the village of Soyria in September 1969. Those terrible slaughters were perpetrated in cold blood by members of the Iraqi police and army under the Iraqi flag and on orders from those in power at that time, who were afflicted with the disease of chauvinism and blind religious intolerance. The tragedy took place under the watching eyes of the British Mandate, that didn't even blink...

Every year we commemorate the pain not with an aim to despise or hate. Rather, we do that to condemn injustice, oppression, detestation and the exclusion of the other. We do that to call for charity and the inclusion of the other, thus we change pain to joy and death to resurrection for a new life full of love and mutual respect..

And as it has been the case every year, there were prayers said, poems recited, and statements made commemorating the anniversary and glorifying the martyrs. However, this year's prayers, poems and statements had their own flavour and

particular effect; the clergymen blessed the coming together of the brothers and wished our politicians every good on the way to compatibility, mutual understanding and joint work.

The funereal commemoration held at the Assyrian Cultural Centre in Duhok was attended by all the political parties of our people. And instead of statements there was a joint memorandum. This was something that similarly happened on the first of April this year. Everybody forgot the memory's bitter pain. Instead, there was speech on joy, the joy of compatibility, agreement, coming together and joint work. Here is the experience of converting pain to joy and death to resurrection and a new life, the charitable will that seeks good to all, the good that embraces the welfare of all humanity. Such is the will that can change pain to joy and death to life. This is what our Lord taught us when he changed pain, weakness and death to resurrection and joy when he asked us to love one another..

Everybody is happy with this compatibility which we wish would strengthen, sustain and develop; for we felt in it the warmth of hope...

Brothers...

Our people do not seek but justice. Neither do they take a course other than that of charity and peace, peace with itself and all the brothers in this ancient homeland. This is so, because every harmonizing step taken by our various parties and institutions, in their ethnic, national, cultural and social mission, is a sap that nourishes the spirit and boosts hope. It is a torch that lights up the way ahead.

Let's work for more concord, harmony and joint nationalist work on the way of achieving our nationalist rights on the soil of Bethnahrain (Mesopotamia), the land of our ancestors.

Glory and immortality to the martyrs of our homeland and all martyrs of justice and freedom in the world.

Editorial Staff